

## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PHONEBOOK-BASED APPLICATION SHARING

### BACKGROUND

**[0001]** Service providers and device manufacturers (e.g., wireless, cellular, etc.) are continually challenged to deliver convenience to consumers by, for example, providing compelling network services. One area of development has been the development of means for facilitating communications among connected users. For example, it is noted that the number and variety of mobile platforms available (e.g., Symbian, iOS, Android, WebOS, etc.) has increased greatly. At the same time, it is noted that there are a huge amount of mobile applications available. However, there lacks an efficient and easy way for users to find interesting, useful, and/or popular mobile applications to install and use. For developers, the increasing number of mobile applications available presents significant challenges to marketing or advertising their particular installed items to consumers. Accordingly, service providers face significant technical challenges to facilitating mobile application sharing efficiently, especially across platforms.

### SOME EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

**[0002]** Therefore, there is a need for an approach for providing sharing of items installed on one or more devices.

**[0003]** According to one embodiment, a method comprises determining one or more items installed on one or more devices. The method also comprises processing and/or facilitating processing of the one or more items to cause, at least in part, an association of the one or more items with respective contact entries associated with the one or more devices, one or more users of the one or more devices, or a combination thereof. The method further comprises causing, at least in part, a rendering of the one or more representations of the one or more items in a contact-based user interface based, at least in part, on the association.

**[0004]** According to another embodiment, an apparatus comprises at least one processor, and at least one memory including computer program code for one or more computer programs, the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, cause, at least in part, the apparatus to determine one or more items installed on one or more devices. The apparatus is also caused to process and/or facilitate processing of the one or more items to cause, at least in part, an association of the one or more items with respective contact entries associated with the one or more devices, one or more users of the one or more devices, or a combination thereof. The apparatus is further caused to cause, at least in part, a rendering of the one or more representations of the one or more items in a contact-based user interface based, at least in part, on the association.

**[0005]** According to another embodiment, a computer-readable storage medium carries one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause, at least in part, an apparatus to determine one or more items installed on one or more devices. The apparatus is also caused to process and/or facilitate processing of the one or more items to cause, at least in part, an association of the one or more items with respective contact entries associated with the one or more devices, one or more users of the one or more devices, or a combination thereof.

The apparatus is further caused to cause, at least in part, a rendering of the one or more representations of the one or more items in a contact-based user interface based, at least in part, on the association.

**[0006]** According to another embodiment, an apparatus comprises means for determining one or more items installed on one or more devices. The apparatus also comprises means for processing and/or facilitating processing of the one or more items to cause, at least in part, an association of the one or more items with respective contact entries associated with the one or more devices, one or more users of the one or more devices, or a combination thereof. The apparatus further comprises means causing, at least in part, a rendering of the one or more representations of the one or more items in a contact-based user interface based, at least in part, on the association.

**[0007]** In addition, for various example embodiments of the invention, the following is applicable: a method comprising facilitating a processing of and/or processing (1) data and/or (2) information and/or (3) at least one signal, the (1) data and/or (2) information and/or (3) at least one signal based, at least in part, on (or derived at least in part from) any one or any combination of methods (or processes) disclosed in this application as relevant to any embodiment of the invention.

**[0008]** For various example embodiments of the invention, the following is also applicable: a method comprising facilitating access to at least one interface configured to allow access to at least one service, the at least one service configured to perform any one or any combination of network or service provider methods (or processes) disclosed in this application.

**[0009]** For various example embodiments of the invention, the following is also applicable: a method comprising facilitating creating and/or facilitating modifying (1) at least one device user interface element and/or (2) at least one device user interface functionality, the (1) at least one device user interface element and/or (2) at least one device user interface functionality based, at least in part, on data and/or information resulting from one or any combination of methods (or processes) disclosed in this application as relevant to any embodiment of the invention, and/or at least one signal resulting from one or any combination of methods (or processes) disclosed in this application as relevant to any embodiment of the invention.

**[0010]** For various example embodiments of the invention, the following is also applicable: a method comprising creating and/or modifying (1) at least one device user interface element and/or (2) at least one device user interface functionality, the (1) at least one device user interface element and/or (2) at least one device user interface functionality based at least in part on data and/or information resulting from one or any combination of methods (or processes) disclosed in this application as relevant to any embodiment of the invention, and/or at least one signal resulting from one or any combination of methods (or processes) disclosed in this application as relevant to any embodiment of the invention.

**[0011]** In various example embodiments, the methods (or processes) can be accomplished on the service provider side or on the mobile device side or in any shared way between service provider and mobile device with actions being performed on both sides.

**[0012]** For various example embodiments, the following is applicable: An apparatus comprising means for performing the method of any of originally filed claims **1-20** and **36-38**.